

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 052213

STADIS/////////
BELGRADE FOR CSCE DEL, GENEVA FOR USDEL TO HRC.

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, UNHRC

SUBJECT: 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: STATEMENT ON
SOVIET JEWRY.

REF: MEZVINSKY-DALLEY TELECON.

1. IN RESPONSE TO US DELEGATION'S REQUEST FOR MATERIAL
WITH WHICH TO DRAFT STATEMENT ON SOVIET JEWRY, DEPARTMENT
PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING STATISTICS AND TALKING POINTS.
TALKING POINTS WERE ORIGINALLY PREPARED FOR DOMESTIC
AUDIENCES AND WILL HAVE TO BE ADAPTED FOR PRESENTATION TO
INTERNATIONAL GROUP. DELEGATION SHOULD CABLE TEXT OF DRAFT
STATEMENT TO DEPARTMENT FOR APPROVAL PRIOR TO DELIVERY.
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2. STATISTICS ON SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION:

YEAR	ARRIVALS
1960 - 1971	APPX. 10,000

1971	14,000
1972	31,500
1973	33,500
1974	20,700
1975	13,300
1976	14,300
1977	16,700

MONTH BY MONTH COMPARISON 1976 AND 1977

MONTH	1976	1977	1978
JANUARY	969	1,245	1,761
FEBRUARY	1,218	1,063	
MARCH	1,391	1,030	
APRIL	1,115	1,204	
MAY	1,120	1,193	
JUNE	1,173	1,268	
JULY	823	1,305	
AUGUST	815	1,474	
SEPTEMBER	1,030	1,622	
OCTOBER	1,254	1,850	
NOVEMBER	1,542	1,543	
DECEMBER	1,814	1,940	

3. THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS ARE DRAWN FROM
SPEECHES MADE BY U.S. OFFICIALS ON SOVIET JEWISH SITUA-
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TION:

-- IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT PRESIDENT
CARTER HAS EMPHASIZED HUMAN RIGHTS. HE IS INTENT ON EN-
SURING THAT OUR PROGRAMS ABROAD REFLECT THE VALUES TO
WHICH WE SUBSCRIBE AS A NATION AND A PEOPLE.

-- THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID THAT THERE ARE NO HIDDEN MEAN-
INGS IN OUR COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS. WE DO NOT AIM
TO SINGLE OUT ANY COUNTRY, NOR TO ENGAGE IN PSYCHOLOGICAL
WARFARE FOR POLITICAL GAIN. NOR DO WE WANT TO IMPOSE OUR
SYSTEM ON OTHER COUNTRIES.

-- BUT WE DO INTEND TO STAND UP FOR THE VALUES WE BELIEVE
IN. AND WE DO NOT STAND ALONE OR ISOLATED IN THIS,
BECAUSE OUR VALUES ARE EXPLICITLY SET FORTH IN DOCUMENTS
SUCH AS THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE
UN COVENANTS ON POLITICAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS.

-- THESE DOCUMENTS AND OTHERS SUCH AS THE HELSINKI
ACCORDS, GIVE INTERNATIONAL STATUS TO HUMAN RIGHTS. AND

I WOULD POINT OUT THAT THE RIGHT OF A PERSON TO LEAVE HIS COUNTRY, AND RETURN IF HE WISHES, IS FOREMOST AMONG THESE.

-- BUT IT IS NOT ONLY INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE WHICH MAKES FREEDOM OF EMIGRATION IMPORTANT TO US. ONE ONLY NEED LOOK AT THE ORIGINS OF SO MANY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WHOSE ANCESTORS FLED PERSECUTION ABROAD, TO UNDERSTAND WHY COMMITMENT TO THE RIGHT TO EMIGRATE IS EMBEDDED IN OUR NATION'S HISTORY.

-- LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT THROUGH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEANS WE ARE WORKING TO MAKE THE DREAM OF SO MANY TO SETTLE IN THE COUNTRY OF HIS OR HER CHOICE A REALITY. WE BELIEVE THAT WHEN PEOPLE CAN FREELY CHOOSE THEIR COUN-
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TRY OF RESIDENCE, THE WORLD ITSELF WILL BE A MORE PEACEFUL, SECURE AND JUST PLACE TO LIVE.

-- LET ME ALSO ASSURE YOU THAT WE HAVE MADE OUR VIEWS CLEARLY AND STRONGLY KNOWN TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT. FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF THIS ADMINISTRATION WE HAVE SOUGHT TO PROMOTE FREER EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION. AND WE HAVE NOT HIDDEN OUR FEELINGS ABOUT SPECIFIC CASES WHICH CONCERN US DEEPLY, SUCH AS THE CASE OF ANATOLIY SHCHARANSKY.

-- WE DO SEE SOME SIGNS OF PROGRESS AND THIS IS ENCOURAGING TO US. EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS LAST YEAR WAS 17,000 AS COMPARED TO 13,000 AND 14,000 IN 1975 AND 1976 RESPECTIVELY. JANUARY 1978 FIGURES CONTINUE THE TREND (ABOUT 1,800).

-- IT IS OBVIOUS THAT STATISTICS ARE IMPORTANT, BUT THEY ARE NOT THE ENTIRE PICTURE. THERE ARE FEW SIGNS OF A DIMINISHMENT IN HARASSMENT AND THE "REFUSENIK" POOL SEEMS TO REMAIN THE SAME -- SOME GET OUT BUT NEW REFUSALS ARE GIVEN.

-- OF CONCERN TO US IS THE FACT THAT ANTI-ZIONIST AND IN SOME CASES ANTI-SEMITIC, PROPAGANDA SEEMS TO BE ON THE RISE -- IN MOVIES, BOOKS, AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES.

-- TREATMENT OF JEWS DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE IMPROVED. WE WATCH THIS AREA CLOSELY. OUR CONCLUSION IS THAT HARASSMENT, SELECTED REFUSALS, AND PROPAGANDA ARE AIMED AT CREATING UNCERTAINTY AMONG PROSPECTIVE EMIGRANTS AND

THEREBY REDUCING APPLICATIONS. CONTROL OF EMIGRATION IS

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ATTAINED IN THIS WAY.

-- AT THE SAME TIME, SOVIETS UNDERSTAND THAT EMIGRATION IS A KEY ISSUE IN US-SOVIET RELATIONS AND THEY ARE CAREFUL NOT TO SHUT THE FLOW OFF TOO DRASTICALLY. TO A CERTAIN DEGREE IT OFFERS THEM AN ESCAPE VALVE FOR DIS-AFFECTED CITIZENS.

-- SOVIETS ALSO SEEM TO USE EMIGRATION TO SIGNAL PLEASURE OR DISPLEASURE IN OUR OVERAL BILATERAL RELATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, AT THE HEIGHT OF DETENTE IN 1972-1973 OVER 30,000 PER YEAR EMIGRATED; IN 1974,DURING A COOLING OFF PERIOD, IT DROPPED TO 20,000 AND IN 1975,AFTER THE JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT,TO ONLY 13,000.

-- LAST YEAR EMIGRATION ROSE -- MOST OF IT IN THE LAST HALF OF THE YEAR, PROBABLY BECAUSE THE SOVIETS WERE LOOK-ING FOR AREAS IN WHICH TO ACT MORE POSITIVELY AND BOOST-ING EMIGRATION, AN ESTABLISHED PROGRAM, WAS RELATIVELY EASY FOR THEM.

FOR BELGRADE: CSCE DELEGATION IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE TO GENEVA TEXTS OF ANY STATEMENTS MADE ON SOVIET JEWRY ISSUE AT CSCE CONFERENCE. VANCE

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